



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Merriwether Middle

Edgefield

Grades: 6-8

Enrollment: 388

Principal: Bobby Turner

Superintendent: Dr. Mary Rice-Crenshaw

Board Chair: Sallie B. Cooks

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	Average	Below Average	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2007	Average	At-Risk	Silver	Not Met	N/A
2006	Average	Good	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT

0

GOOD

6

AVERAGE

29

BELOW AVERAGE

6

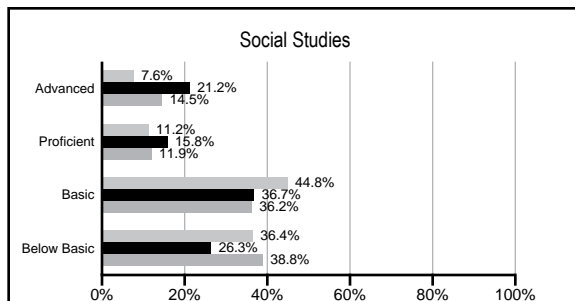
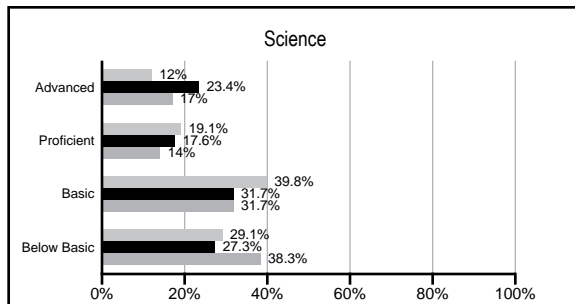
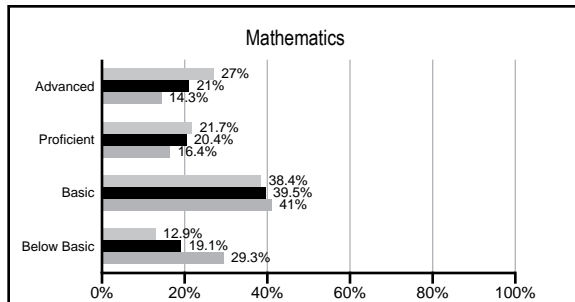
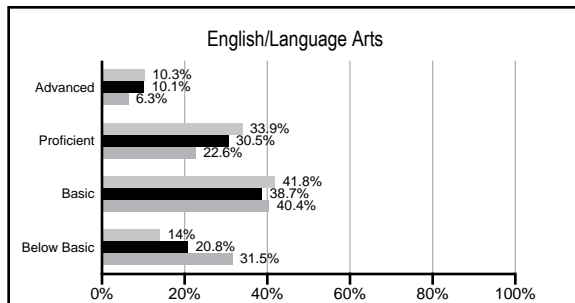
AT-RISK

1

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/02/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Middle Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

PACT PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle schools statewide



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.

READING - GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	31	44	23	2
Nation	27	43	27	2
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

MATH - GRADE 8 (2007)

South Carolina	29	39	24	7
Nation	30	39	24	7
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

SCIENCE - GRADE 8 (2005)

South Carolina	46	31	21	2
Nation	43	30	24	3
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2008

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0%	98.4%
English 1	97.1%	94.4%
Physical Science	0%	28.5%
All Subjects	98.6%	97.8%

SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Goal: TBD

Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined
 NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

Merriwether Middle [Edgefield]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=388)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	16.5%	Down from 46.6%	27.3%	19.4%
Retention rate	2.5%	Up from 2.3%	1.9%	1.8%
Attendance rate	96.6%	Up from 95.6%	96.0%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	21.3%	Down from 22.3%	20.8%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	11.5%	Up from 11.3%	11.4%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	1.0%	Up from 0.3%	0.9%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=27)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	48.1%	Down from 50.0%	56.8%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	88.9%	Up from 85.7%	74.4%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	4.0%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	87.5%	Up from 84.8%	86.3%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.5%	Up from 93.8%	95.0%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$42,761	Up 3.4%	\$45,112	\$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	Down from 4.4%	2.0%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	No Change	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.8 to 1	Up from 20.1 to 1	22.4 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.8%	Up from 88.1%	89.9%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$7,207	Up 18.4%	\$6,444	\$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	58.3%	Down from 61.1%	66.2%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	56.8%	Down from 60.3%	60.8%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	76.2%		72.4%	69.0%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	25	111	93
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	82.0%	91.4%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	87.4%	86.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	88.2%	86.8%

*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Merriwether Middle School is located in rural Edgefield County and serves approximately 400 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from various economic and ethnic backgrounds. At Merriwether Middle School, we believe that all students should be provided with opportunities for successful experiences. We strive to offer a curriculum that maximizes the intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of our emerging adolescents. We understand the unique needs and concerns of young adolescents, as well as the developmental challenges of this age group.

Our curriculum is designed to assist our middle school students through the transitional period between elementary school and high school. Every student attends five academic classes and two exploratory classes taught daily by highly qualified teachers. Exploratory classes include band, music, art, physical education, technology, keyboarding, computer-assisted instruction, and reading and math enrichment. English 1, Algebra 1, and keyboarding are offered to eighth grade students for high school credit.

The 2007-08 school year brought noteworthy recognition of many academic achievements attained by Merriwether Middle School students. These milestones validate the efforts of both our teachers and students in the pursuit of excellence. Fourteen students were recognized as Junior Scholars. Our Mathcounts team finished second in the regionals and qualified to participate in the state competition. Our Science Eco-Meet team placed fourth in the CSRA regional competition. The Merriwether Honor Band received a Superior rating in the prestigious State Festival with 3 students selected for the All-State Band. A newly-created Chess team won numerous first-place individual and team awards. 100% of students enrolled passed the End-Of-Course Algebra 1 test, and 97% of students passed the End-Of-Course English 1 test and will receive high school credit.

Technology has been upgraded with the installation of Promethean and Inter-write Boards, biometric identification, and the A+ Program.

All students participated in bi-monthly club meetings. The Beta Club, Yearbook Staff, WMMS daily news show, and various volunteer organizations highlight positive student involvement in school activities.

We welcome your input and participation in all aspects of the educational process. Your support and cooperation will ensure that our students continue to meet and exceed all challenges presented to them.

Bobby R. Turner, Principal
Robin Ball, SIC Chair

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